



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF  
THE STATE OF SONORA, THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND  
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA,  
THROUGH THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES,  
FOR COOPERATION ON INITIATIVES INTENDED TO IMPROVE THE PROCESS OF  
TRANSPORTING EMERGENCY PATIENTS BY AMBULANCE ACROSS THE U.S.-  
MEXICO BORDER PORTS OF ENTRY IN THE ARIZONA-SONORA MEGAREGION



## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES AND THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH OF THE STATE OF SONORA**

Memorandum of understanding for cooperation on initiatives aimed at improving the process of the emergent crossing of patients by ambulance across the U.S.-Mexico Border Ports of Entry of the Arizona-Sonora Megarregion, between the authorities of the Arizona Department of Health Services and the Ministry of Public Health of the State of Sonora, hereinafter "THE PARTICIPANTS", who subscribe to the following:

### **CONSIDERING**

That the Arizona Department of Health Services coordinates emergency medical services and ambulance transfers in the State of Arizona, was requested to work with the Ministry of Health of the State of Sonora to develop a Binational Protocol to facilitate the process of emergency ambulance transfers of Citizens of the United States, non-citizen nationals of the United States, lawful permanent residents, and other individuals who have been previously granted and currently have lawful presence in the United States, who become injured or ill while in Sonora to cross the U.S.-Mexico Border into Arizona to receive medical care;

That the Ministry of Public Health of the State of Sonora, is an organization that belongs to the State of Sonora's public administration, responsible for coordinating the State Health System as well as the Emergency Medical Regulatory Center and public and private health care services for people within the State of Sonora.

Therefore, and based on the above considerations, "THE PARTICIPANTS" have reached the following understanding:

## UNDERSTANDING

**First.-** "PARTICIPANTS" will endeavor to jointly develop a technical protocol in which communication, coordination and logistics activities are established, in cases in which patients who are Citizens of the United States, non-citizen nationals of the United States, lawful permanent residents, and other individuals who have been previously granted and currently have lawful presence in the United States, can be transferred emergently in a safe and efficient manner to a U.S.-Mexico Border Port of Entry for their safe crossing into Arizona to receive health care, in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws.

**Second.-** "PARTICIPANTS" will endeavor to develop and implement a training strategy regarding the protocol to the ambulance service providers on both sides of the border for their knowledge and application.

**Third.-** "PARTICIPANTS" will endeavor to jointly develop a strategy of dissemination to the general population of the Arizona-Sonora Megaregion that promotes the proper use of this transfer protocol when medically necessary.

**Fourth.-** "PARTICIPANTS" will endeavor to collect and share non-confidential information with each other regarding emergency patient crossing events that occur at each U.S.-Mexico Border Port of Entry in the Arizona-Sonora Megaregion, in an effort to promote continuous quality improvement of this protocol with ambulance service providers on both sides of the border.

## **FINAL PROVISIONS**

This Memorandum of Understanding is intended to memorialize the Participants' commitment to explore ways to promote collaboration between them, but it is non-binding and does not create any legal or binding obligation between the states. Nothing in this Memorandum of Understanding should be read to conflict with the laws and regulations of the United States of America or the United Mexican States (or any state or local jurisdiction), or with any relevant international agreements. There are no third-party beneficiaries to this Memorandum of Understanding.



This Memorandum of Understanding will come become effective on the date of its signature and will continue in force for a period of three (3) years, extendable for periods of equal duration.

This Memorandum of Understanding may be modified by mutual consent of THE PARTICIPANTS, formalized through a written modification signed by both Participants specifying the date on which such modifications will take effect.

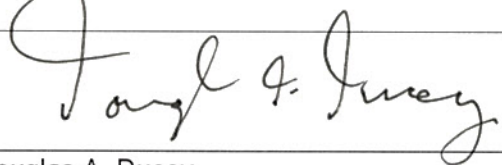
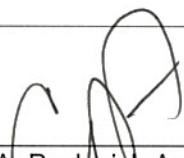
Each Participant may terminate its participation under this Memorandum of Understanding at any time through a written notice of termination to the other Participant. Nonetheless, the Participants should endeavor to give the other party 30 days' written notice of its intention to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding. The termination should not preclude the completion of any cooperative activities implemented while the Memorandum of Understanding was valid. Each state will be responsible for its own expenses in the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding.



Signed in the city of Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico on Friday, November 30, two thousand and eighteen,  
in two original copies in English and Spanish, both texts being equally authentic.

	
Cara Christ Director Arizona Department of Health Services	Adolfo Enrique Clausen Iberri Secretary of Public Health State of Sonora

Witnesses of Honor

	
Douglas A. Ducey Governor State of Arizona	Claudia A. Pavlovich Arellano Constitutional Governor State of Sonora